

Message Text

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ACTION AF-18

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FM AMCONSUL ZANZIBAR

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 932

INFO AMEMBASSY DAR ES SALAAM

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE ZANZIBAR 0151

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PINS PFORE

SUBJ: TREASON TRIAL - DEATH SENTENCES FOR THOSE WHO

PLEADED GUILTY

REF: ZANZIBAR 0148

1. THE THREE MAN PANEL OF ZANZIBAR'S PEOPLE'S COURT
HANDED DOWN DEATH SENTENCES FOR ALL NINE PERSONS WHO PLEADED
" GUILTY" TO CHARGES OF PLOTTING TO OVERTHROW THE ZANZIBAR
GOVERNMENT IN APRIL 1972. MEETING ON MAY 19, 1973, THE COURT'S
CHAIRMAN, AME MOHAMMED, SAID THAT THE COURT MEMBERS HAD TAKEN
INTO CONSIDERATION THE MITIGATION PLEAS OF THE DEFENDENTS BUT
THAT THEY BELIEVED THE ONLY PUNISHMENT BEFITTING THE OFFENSE
WAS DEATH. THE DEFENDENTS WILL BE ALLOWED TO APPEAL THE
SENTENCES TO THE PEOPLE'S HIGH COURT.

THE COMMENCEMENT DATE FOR THE TRIAL OF THE 54 PERSONS WHO
PLEADED " NOT GUILTY" AND THE 18 BEING TRIED IN ABSENTIA HAS
BEEN CHANGED FROM MAY 23 TO JUNE 5 IN ORDER TO GIVE THE
COURT TIME FOR MOVING TO A LARGER ROOM TO ACCOMMODATE A LARGER
PUBLIC AUDIENCE.

ROGERS

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*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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